

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An audio amplifier electrical circuit~~ for amplifying an audio source, the circuit comprising:

an audio pre-amplifier ~~pre-amplified audio circuit~~ having volume control inputs, wherein the pre-amplifier receives the audio source and receives power from a power source;

an audio amplifier connected to the pre-amplifier ~~pre-amplified audio source~~ and the power source, the audio amplifier outputting that outputs an amplified audio signal;

a power supervisory circuit that monitors [[a]] power signal used to supply device power to used by the audio amplifier and pre-amplifier ~~audio amplifier~~; and

a volume control circuit that activates at least one of the volume control inputs when the supervisory circuit detects the power signal used to supply device power to the pre-amplifier and audio amplifier is beyond a pre-determined limit.

2. (Currently Amended) The circuit of claim 1 wherein the pre-amplifier ~~pre-amplified audio circuit~~ is a Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC) ~~which converts a digital audio signal to a pre-amplified audio signal.~~

3. (Original) The circuit of claim 1 wherein the volume control inputs are digital.

4. (Currently Amended) The circuit of claim 1 wherein the supervisory circuit detects whether a supply voltage ~~supplying device power~~ to the ~~audio~~ amplifier falls below a pre-determined threshold limit.

5. (Currently Amended) An audio amplifier system for driving computer speakers from connected to a bus port of a personal computer, the system comprising:

a bus port connection connectable to a computer from the audio amplifier system having data and power inputs;

a DAC having volume control inputs and a bus interface, ~~wherein the DAC is adapted which can be connected to a personal computer~~ to receive a digital audio signal through the bus interface and output an ~~corresponding~~ analog audio signal;

an audio amplifier ~~comprising an audio input connected to that receives~~ the analog audio signal from the DAC, ~~an audio output that~~ and outputs an amplified audio signal for driving speakers and a power supply input, wherein the power supply input is different from the audio input and the audio output;

a power supervisory circuit that monitors ~~[[a]] power signal used to drive the power supply input of~~ by the audio amplifier and the DAC; and

a volume control circuit that activates at least one of the volume control inputs when the supervisory circuit detects the power signal used to drive the ~~power supply input of~~ by the audio amplifier and DAC is beyond a pre-determined limit.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the power used by the system is supplied over the bus port ~~connected to the computer~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the volume control inputs are adapted to be actuated by the user-actuable, and wherein the volume control circuit overrides a user actuation of the volume control inputs when the supervisory circuit detects the power signal used to drive the power supply input of the audio amplifier is beyond the pre-determined limit.

8. (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein the volume control inputs are digital.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the supervisory circuit detects whether a supply voltage ~~corresponding to the power signal~~ used to drive the ~~power supply input of~~ the audio amplifier falls below a pre-determined threshold limit.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An audio amplifier system for driving computer speakers ~~connected to~~ through a Universal Serial Bus (USB) port comprising:

~~a bus port connection connectable to a computer from the audio amplifier system having data and power inputs;~~

a USB DAC having volume control inputs and a USB interface, wherein the USB DAC is adapted which can be connected to a personal computer to receive a digital audio signal and output an ~~corresponding~~ analog audio signal, and wherein the USB DAC is adapted to receive power through the USB port;

an audio amplifier that receives ~~connected to~~ the analog audio signal from the USB DAC and that outputs an amplified audio signal for driving speakers, wherein the audio amplifier is adapted to receive power through the USB port;

a power supervisory circuit that monitors ~~[[a]] power used signal provided by the power input of the bus port connection and used to supply device power to the audio amplifier and the~~ USB DAC; and

a volume control circuit that activates at least one of the volume control inputs when the supervisory circuit detects the power used to drive the audio amplifier and the USB DAC signal ~~provided by the power input of the bus port connection~~ is beyond a pre-determined limit.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 wherein the volume control inputs are adapted to be actuated by the user ~~actuable~~, and wherein the volume control circuit overrides a user actuation of the volume control inputs when the supervisory circuit detects the power signal provided by the power input of the bus port connection is beyond the pre-determined limit.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the volume control inputs are digital.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 wherein the supervisory circuit detects whether a supply voltage ~~corresponding to the power signal used to drive the power supply input of the audio amplifier~~ falls below a pre-determined threshold limit.

DOCKET NO.
TI-36552

PATENT APPLICATION
SERIAL NO. 10/672,534

17-18. (Cancelled)